

**Episcopal Churches of
St. James' Stonehaven.
St. Philip's Catterline.
April 2021**



**Services at St. James' & St Philip's during
April 2021**

Sundays.

10.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

There will be no services at St Philip's until further notice.



DIARY NOTES April 2021

Day/Date	Event
4th April Easter Sunday	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman
11th April 2nd Sunday in Easter	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles
18th April 3rd Sunday in Easter	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Anne O’Gorman
25th April 4th Sunday in Easter	10.00am Reserved Sacrament. Arma Iles

Bishop Andrew writes:

We are approaching Easter 2021 and life is still very different for all of us in Scotland: for all of us in the world. The journey through Lent 2021 has been very different from most years before us. In the middle of Lent 2020 we were plunged into a hard lockdown as the new pandemic took hold. A year and more on: and life is still turned upside down. The springtime signs of hope are appearing in nature with the early flowers starting to appear, the birdsong growing in intensity and the warming of the days and nights. There are signs of new life that can remind us of the Easter promises that lie ahead for all.

We hope and pray that worship will have restarted in time for Easter – at the time of writing that is a possibility but there is always a fear that things may turn for the worse, the virus may have a resurgence, confidence in the vaccination programme may falter. It is human nature to fear that all will not turn out for the best. Maybe that is a fear that can undermine how we feel about the promise of Easter, celebrated for nearly 2,000 years in the Christian faith.

We are told at Easter that God's love will win: God loved the world and sent his Son to make all things well with humanity. We are told that even if the world seems hard and dark and difficult that God as creator loves this world and will protect and redeem it, and all of us. But is it human to fear that it is just not true? That the darkness will win? That things are just too hard for a 'happy ending' to be possible?

But we can have confidence in the promise that Jesus gave us, that he enacted on the cross and by leaving the tomb empty behind him. For centuries there have been millions upon millions of people of faith who have raised their hands in celebration at the Easter good news of God's love. With every single one of them we can trust, we can praise and we can follow the Saviour who changes everything for everyone.

This Easter we will celebrate: we may still be wearing masks, we may still be counting the capacity of the church. we may have to

listen to an organ play or a soloist sing as we sit in silence. But that will pass: and the Easter promise that all will be well is just as strong today as it always has been!

Easter blessings to you all.

+Andrew

Diocesan Synod

Like all meetings at the moment, Diocesan Synod was held on-line this year. That meant it had to be shortened, although it still lasted for 3 hours.

Apart from the usual business of receiving reports from the various diocesan committees, Synod broke into small (virtual) groups to discuss two issues. The first was a motion originating from last year's General Synod "That this Synod, expressing the need for urgent action in relation to the global climate emergency, call on the Church in Society Committee, working in conjunction with other appropriate bodies, to bring forward a programme of actions to General Synod 2021 to resource the Scottish Episcopal Church in working towards net zero carbon emissions by 2030."

The feedback from the groups highlighted such issues as the need to audit the church's carbon footprint and how do we measure it, the challenge of heating church buildings, the costs of implementing changes, concerns that the proposed timescale was very short, more meetings on Zoom to save on travel.

The second issue was to consider the proposal from the review group looking at Canon 4. This canon sets out the process for electing a bishop. The current process involves a Preparatory Committee, consisting of members from the diocese and the wider Province, producing a short list of between 3 and 5 candidates. These then make presentations before the Electoral Synod, which is effectively the Diocesan Synod, and the successful candidate is the one who obtains a majority of votes from both the Lay members of the Electoral Synod and the Clergy members.

The proposal before Synod looked at the role played by the Preparatory Committee and the Electoral Synod. The Review Group asked for views on two possible proposals. The first basically kept the roles of Preparatory Committee and Electoral Synod unchanged but required training to be

undertaken by members of those groups in spiritual discernment and employment practice. There would also be changes to the timescale of the election and the number of candidates on the shortlist, but Synod was not asked to consider these. The second proposal would replace the Electoral Synod with an Electoral Council. This would be smaller than the current Electoral Synod and would consist of members elected by each diocese and two bishops.

After discussion Synod voted with 46% in favour of the first option, 37% for the second option and 17% undecided.

One very welcome announcement was that the return on church investments had been so good in the past year, that quota (the “tax” that we pay to the diocese and the Province) was to be reduced by 18%.

Peter

Transition Minister

The Joint Coordinating Group met on the 4th and 18th March. It is now working to identify a suitable property to house the minister. The SEC has strict guidelines on the type of property that can be used as a rectory and, of course, we are limited to properties in the Newtonhill Stonehaven area.

Meanwhile the intention is still to place an advert in the Church Times on 16th April.

Peter

Vestry Minutes 22nd February 2021

A minute’s silence was held in remembrance of Doreen Brankin.

Correspondence

An email was received from the Baptist Church regarding the World Day of Prayer. Arma and Anne will represent St James for the service.

The next Diocesan Synod is on 6th March.

A form has been received from Ecclesiastical Insurance which has been completed.

Treasurer's Report

Main Account:	£52,702.30
Fabric Fund Account:	£2,236.51
Building Account:	£383.32
St Philip's:	£1,063.56

Worship

The Bishop has offered to take a service at St James on 14th March. If we are still in lockdown this will be via Zoom. David is to reply to thank him and accept his offer.

Discussion with Bishop Andrew

Minutes from the Joint Co-ordinating meeting and Diocesan Council paper for Stonehaven and Muchalls had been circulated prior to the vestry meeting. Peter reported that the on-line meeting with Justin Arnott went well, he is a very pleasant man, lacking experience in church ministry but with a lot of worldly experience. St Ternan's are still keen to advertise the post. If Justin Arnott had come over for an interview this would have involved quarantine in both directions, plus a hotel quarantine cost of £1,750. It was agreed to advertise the post and this will appear in the Church Times on 16th April.

The Diocesan Council have agreed, in principle, to purchase a 4 bedroom property for the new minister. This property would be owned by the Diocese but the two charges would be responsible for its upkeep. This would be about £2,000 each per annum, which is less than the £12,000 originally budgeted for rent.

The vestry agreed to be responsible for maintenance and agreed with the proposed budget.

There would be further discussion on using some money from the Catterline Fund.

Fabric

Church: The main tracker rod on the organ is broken. Completion of the repair is due by Wednesday.

Plaster has come down from the ceiling. Three estimates have been received for the repair and the middle one accepted (this plasterer has previously done work in the church).

The Quinquennial inspections will take place after lockdown.

Hall: David and Diane are sorting some books in the hall and have managed to sell some online.

Rectory: David has repaired the washing machine.

AOCB

Doreen Brankin's son has said he wishes to make a donation to St James in memory of his mother. A collection for St James was taken at her funeral. The family plans to hold a memorial service at a later date.

Val reported that Selina is now in a care home in Montrose near her family. Bill Wilson is not well and is awaiting treatment.

David reported that Edward is fine.

Revised plans have been approved for the flood works between the White Bridge and Allardice Street. These works will commence shortly and the bridge will be returned in Spring 2022.

Next Meeting (via Zoom): 22nd March 2021

St James in 1958

The World: **Jan:** European Economic Community formed, West German forces joined NATO; **Feb:** Benelux economic pact signed, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament formed, Munich air crash killed 21 people including 8 Man United footballers; **Mar:** Vivien Fuchs completed first overland crossing of Antarctica, Christobel Pankhurst died; **April:** US embargoed arms shipments to Cuba; **May:** state of emergency declared in Aden; **June:** Iceland extended fishing limits to 12 miles; **July:** Alaska became 49th state of US, first life peerage awarded in Britain, Krushchev visited Britain; **Aug:** race riots in Notting Hill, London; **Sept:** Verwoerd became South African Premier, Martin Luther King arrested for loitering in Alabama; **Oct:** Pope Pius XII died, Cardinal Roncalli elected Pope John XXIII; **Dec:** De Gaulle elected President of France.

Also: Truman Capote's *'Breakfast at Tiffany's'*, Elvis Presley drafted into US Army, death of Ralph Vaughan Williams, Soviet authorities forced Boris Pasternak to retract his acceptance of the Nobel Prize for literature, Mile Davis

recorded '*Porgy and Bess*', last debutantes presented at court.

Introduction of Boeing 707 jet airliner; USS *Nautilus* was first nuclear-powered submarine and first voyage under the ice cap of the North Pole; manned space flight tests began (formation of NASA); Christopher Cockerell obtained funding to develop hovercraft; first colour videotape transmitted in US; Explorer I -first American satellite launched; high frequency sound waves first used to show clear outline of unborn baby; stereophonic records first became available.

Serious escalation of violence in Cyprus,

St James in 1958

12th January: The Rector intimated that the house situated at 11 Bridgefield and now to be known as Church House is soon to be vacated by the present occupier and, on the advice of the Diocesan Registrar, the house becomes a tied house. The occupants to be caretakers of St James' Church, 11 Bridgefield and 1A Arbuthnott Street (Church Hall). Applications had already been made including a young couple who would be very suitable. Owing to the interest aroused in the let the Vestry would have to decide whether to appoint now or advertise by way of congregational intimation for the next two Sundays. The Vestry agreed that the house should be let to someone who would also clean the Church and Hall. As Mr Barclay had an interest in the appointment he withdrew and it was decided to advertise the let at the services in January, closing date 24th January.

26th January: The Vestry considered the applicants for the advertised post. It was proposed by Mr A Christie, seconded by Mr J Christie that the young couple - Mr Gavin Leiper and his fiancée - be appointed. The statement of accounts showed a credit balance of £87-16-4.

28th January: The Annual General Meeting was held in the Hall. There were 43 communicant members present. The Rector reported that the side chapel had been greatly enhanced by the generous gift of Mrs Hare. Unfortunately the clerestory windows had not yet been repaired due to the illness of Mr Kerr and family but he had promised this to be completed by spring or early summer. The outstanding events of the year had been the UMCA Rally, the annual sale of work, the Cabbage Tea and Daffodil Tea. Communion had increased to 2429 including 167 at Whitsun and 208 at Christmas. The general attendance of the younger members was very poor.

After numerous complaints about the late arrival of the Magazine each month the publishers said that, as they had new premises, the delivery would be speeded up so they would arrive at the beginning of the month. The congregational social held in January was a great success, the total net expenses amounting to 27/6.

The Rector intimated that a missionary meeting would be held on Whitsunday at Arbroath. The annual sale of work would be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 23rd July.

19th February: An estimate for the redecoration of the Rector's Vestry was submitted. The amount was £15-19-3 and this was accepted. The Rector reported that the Cathedral had undergone extensive repairs and the congregation was faced with heavy bills. An appeal for help to defray the costs was to be sent to every congregation in the Diocese. The Rector suggested some money could be raised by holding a basket whist drive in the Town Hall.

The wall surrounding the field was beginning to look the worse for wear and Mr Dalgarno was to contact Mr Knight to see if some repair could be done.

5th March: The meeting was called to consider the installation of an amplifying system in the Church. To help with costs a donation of £70 had been offered by Mr A Law of Castle Street. After some discussion it was agreed that the scheme should go ahead. Mr A Christie and Mr J Emslie kindly offered to carry out the necessary wiring. A Whist Drive would be held in the Town Hall on 23rd April, the proceeds to go the Cathedral restoration fund.

2nd September: The account for the installation of the amplifying system had been received from Mr W Blacklaws, amounting to £156-13-9. Deducting the donation of £70 the treasurer was instructed to pay the balance of £85-13-9. Thanks were expressed to Mr A Christie, Mr J Emslie and Mr G Leiper for their help in wiring the church. It was agreed to accept Mr Kerr's offer for the double glazing of the two 'Officer' windows at the cost of £14. Owing to the cancellation by the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board of the 1952 agreement it was decided that St James should make an application for the installation of a time clock whereby the Board would provide electricity at their 'off peak' period rates.

Readers, and Greeters,

Date	Readings
4th April Easter Sunday	Acts 10.34-43 or Is 25.6-9 Ps 118.1-2,14-24 1 C 15.1-11 or Acts 10.34-43 Jn 20.1-18 or Mk 16.1-8
11th April 2nd Sunday in Easter	Acts 4.32-35 Ps 133 1 Jn 1.1-2:2 Jn 20.19-31
18th April 3rd Sunday in Easter	Acts 3.12-19 Ps 4 1 Jn 3.1-7 Lk 24.36b-48
25th April 4th Sunday in Easter	Acts 4.5-12 Ps 23 1 Jn 3.16-24 Jn 10.11-18
2nd May 5th Sunday in Easter	Acts 8.26-40 Ps 22.24-30 1 Jn 4.7-21 Jn 15.1-8

Year B – Readings are from the NRSV of the Bible

Greeter	Lessons 1+2	Gospel
Diana Peters	Peter Sharp	Crucifer or Celebrant
Irene Paterson	Diane Fleming	Crucifer or Celebrant
Val Cadd	Val Cadd	Crucifer or Celebrant
David Fleming	Heather Grant	Crucifer or Celebrant
Peter Sharp	Diana Peters	Crucifer or Celebrant

St James', Stonehaven and St Philip's, Catterline
 Interim Rector. Bishop Andrew.
 Vestry Secretary: Anne O'Gorman.
 Church Phone No: 01569 764473

GROUP CONVENORS

GROUP CONVENORS	
Property	David Fleming
Communication	Peter Sharp
Music	David Fleming
Social	Val Cadd
Lay Reader emeritus	Arma Iles
Weekly Pew Sheet	Diana Peters
Hall Management	David Fleming
Protection of Vulnerable Groups Officer	Irene Paterson
Vestry	Peter Sharp

The copy deadline for the April Newsletter is Sunday 25th April 2021

Reminders will not be sent out.

St James Episcopal Church, Stonehaven .Scottish Registered Charity No. SC000301
 St Philip's Episcopal Church, Catterline Scottish Registered Charity No. SC023282